

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : EUR - Mr. Foy D. Kohler

DATE: April 27, 1961

FROM : GER - Martin J. Hillenbrand

SUBJECT: Work Related to Berlin Now in Progress

This memorandum is to bring you up to date on the somewhat diffuse work now being done on various aspects of the Berlin problem. A considerable amount of activity is in progress. The main difficulty will be to tie it all together at the appropriate time.

1. There is a fairly intensive tripartite exercise under way on non-military countermeasures. You are familiar with the early version of the paper on this subject as submitted to governments. This has undergone considerable revision and amplification. As soon as final French comments are received, it can be brought out in a definitive edition with the idea of marrying it with the quadripartite exercise on economic countermeasures and then putting the whole package into NATO.

a. Under this general heading a special study is being made of measures which can be taken in the civil aviation field.

2. The quadripartite exercise on economic countermeasures centered in Bonn is making a certain amount of progress. All of the replies from the various NATO countries to the questions raised by the first three parts of the paper have now been received and are being compiled by the International Staff. When compiled, the International Staff compilation will enable the next phase of the work to be continued in Bonn.

3. You are, of course, familiar with the bilateral discussions with the British arising out of the Macmillan visit, which, we hope, can fairly quickly be broadened out to include the French and eventually the Germans.

4. While the Four-Power Working Group has not yet gotten to the point of discussing the Western position for possible negotiations with the Soviets, there is a great deal of thinking and writing going on internally related to this subject. There are the various GER papers which have gone over to the White House. These will be followed up with certain further studies which were indicated as forthcoming. At the same time I understand that Henry Kissinger is going to produce a paper shortly on certain aspects of the German problem. He is also giving some thought to contingency planning, having coordinated this to a degree with Mr. Acheson who, as you know, will resume his study of certain parts of the Berlin question upon his return from Europe.

5. The next

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5. The next specific task of the Four-Power Working Group will presumably be to discuss the reply to the Soviet memorandum of February 17, 1961, to the Federal Republic. A German draft should soon be available to start this off.

6. There is an S/P paper which tries to take a "new look" at Germany and Europe, which is being discussed in a small State Department working group which GMR has set up in accordance with Mr. McGhee's suggestion in his note to you transmitting the paper. This group has met once and will continue to meet as required. Eventually, I would think a memorandum from you to Mr. McGhee on the subject of the S/P paper would be desirable, but the working party should, presumably meet a few more times before this goes forward.

7. There is a crash operation going on in the Pentagon to produce the studies on the military phases of contingency planning requested by Mr. Acheson. These may be available early next week.

We are trying as best we can in GMR to keep informed about all the foregoing, and to the extent possible are trying to tie them together. In some cases this is not easy.

Realize this - but keep as it is
Fix

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